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31 Aug 1976, GDS, DoD 5200.1-r; D/A ltr, 29 Apr 1980

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#### DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY OFFICE OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL WASHINGTON, D.C. 20310

AGDA -A (M) (27 Jan 71) FOR OT UT 703239

2 February 1971

SUBJECT: Operational Report - Lessons Learned, Headquarters, 11th Aviation Battalion, Period Ending 31 July 1970 (U)

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SEE DISTRIBUTION

- The attached report is forwarded for review and evaluation in accordance with para 4b, AR 525-15.
- 2. The information contained in this report is provided to insure that lessons learned during current operations are used to the benefit of future operations and may be adapted for use in developing training
- 3. Information of actions initiated as a result of your evaluation should be forwarded to the Assistant Chief of Staff for Force Development, ATTN: FOR OT UT within 90 days of receipt of this letter.

BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY:

l Incl

sineth G. Neicklam

KENNETH G. WICKHAM Major General, USA The Adjutant General

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#### CONTINENTIAL

#### DEPARTMENT OF THE ABOY HEADQUARTERS, 11TH AVIATION BATTALION (COMBAT) APO SAN FRANCISCO 95289

#### "EXEMPLA PROPOMERE"

AVBACA....C

13 August 1970

SUBJECT: Operational Report-Lessons Learned of the 11th Aviation Battalion (Combat), for Quarterly Period Ending 31 July 1970, RCS CSFOR-65 (R2) (U)

SEE DISTAIRUTION

- 1. (C) Opporations: Significant Activities.
  - a. (U) Masion. There were no relation changes.
  - b. (0) Orimisation.

An organisational chart depicting the composition of the 11th Aviation Sattalion (Combat) may be found at Inclosure 1.

- c. (U) Command and Staff.
- (1) Significant changes in the lith Aviation Settation (Combat) command and staff structure during this reporting period are:

#### STATE

- (a) On 17 May 1970, CPI Norman L. Haybar, FA, placed CPT Patrick McCombs, Li, as Battalian S4.
- (b) On 10 June 1970, HAJ Junes E. Brayboy, PA, roplaced HAJ Earl L. Helchow, DB, as Battalion \$3.
- (c) On 13 June 1970, CPT Gorald R. Davis, SC, Communication Placed CPT Gerald M. Plukon, SC, Communication Officer.
- (d) On 14 July 1970, CPT Robert Forrigen, IC, sessuand the duties of Anthalian ANO.
- (o) On 18 July 1970, WO1 Dickio G. Cook, AG, and replaced CW2 Patrick J. Davis, AG, and as Sattalian Parsonnel Officer.

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OUTHORAND AT 3 YEAR DIVERNALS; DOCLASSIND AFTER 12 YEARS. DOD DIR 5300.10

AVEAJA-AG 13 august 1970 SUBJECT: Gall for Ferrod Brain, 31 July 1970, AGS USANA-65 (A2) (U)

#### Unit Conjunders

- replaced MG avangence bentoe, IN, Commented as Commenting Officer of the 173rd aviation Company (assault Helicopter).
- (g) On 3 July 1970, CFT William S. Farris, FA, re; lackd Gil Gilbort R. Jenkins, Ta, Commission, as commanding officer of MHC, 11th Aviation Estimation (Council).
- (h) On 3 July 1970, GFT Gilbert R. Jenkins, Ik, reflected Fad movert in and dock, Il., the as Commanding officer of the 2. th aviation Jon any (assoult Support helico ter).
- (2) The current command and stail structure is reflected at Inclosure &.
  - d. (b) Unit Strengths (as or 3) July 1990).
  - (1) :distury.

UNIT	dF dTi.		ALTH.			ASC	TU: Abla	
HIG	19	20	3	ь	85	108	107	136
4,2d Nad bet	1	1	٥	0	7	6	8	7
128th Avn Go (Asit Hur)	17	15	51'	47	218	184	258	247
1750 Avn So (A.1: .E.i)	19	18	51	44	218	107	268	254
755th Med Let	1	1	0	0	7	6	i	7
Booth Avi do (Asia Spa Mil	) 15	11	26	13	226	211	264	540
Light Nam Co (Asit of the	) 15	14	26	17	228	216	267	247
IOTAL 11th Avn In (Gbt)	ξ\$	Ex	1 57	142	771	918	1237	1136

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(2) Civilian.	_	ac PFD	VN AUTH		3d NA AUTH		TECH AUTH	
ннс	5	0	11 -	10	0	0	2	2
432d Ned Det	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0
128th Avn Co (Aslt Hel)	0	0	10	9	0	0	0	0
173d Avn Co (Aslt Hel)	0	0	8	8	0	0	0	0
759th Med Det	0	0	. 1	1	0	0	0	0
205th Awn Co (Aslt Spt Hel)	0	0	8	8	0	0	1	1
213th Avn Co (Aslt Spt Hel)	0	0	9	8	0	0	1	1
TOTAL 11th Avn Bn (Cbt)	5	0	48	45	0	0	4	4

- (U) Aircraft Status. See Inclosure 3.
- f. (U) Operational Results. See Inclosure 4.
- g. (U) Employment. The 11th Aviation Dattalion (Combat) was engaged in daily support of tactical operations during the quarter. Continuous training of new personnel was accomplished concurrently with the conduct of normal combat operations.
  - h. Personnel. Morale. Discipline and Information.
- (1) Personnel Records. An average of 1,1940 records were maintained during the period. Processing totals were as follows:

		In Processed	Out Processed
	Officer	35	32
	Warrant Officer	34	40
	Enlisted Men	242	<u>251</u>
	Total	311	323
T	vet.	3	

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(2) Awards and Decorations. The following awards and decorations were processed this period:

Submitted	Mord	Received
. 2	Silver Star	e
2	Legion of Merit	0
43	Distinguished Flying Cross	42
0	Soldier's Medal	4
0	Sronze Star "V"	0
21	Air Medal "V"	<b>3</b> 0
- 6	Army Commendation Medal "V"	141
95	Bro.me Star	113
1717	Air Medal	1327
595	Army Commendation Medal	442
4	Furple Heart	4

(3) Estation Racial Relations Council. In order to enhance racial harmony within the Buttalion, a Battalion Racial Relations Council was established on 20 July 1970. Each company provided two members and an alternate, who were appointed, according to the Constitution, by their respective company Commanders. The membership is limited to three Junior Officers (03 or lower) and seven Emlisted Men (E-6 or lower). Five of the members were of a minority race. The council will advise the Battalion Commander by providing recommended courses of action to deal with problems and/or sensitivities surfaced by members of the 11th aviation Sattalion (Combat).

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#### i. (C) Intelligence and Security.

- (1) Throughout this period, weekly intelligence briefings were presented to the Battalion Commander and staff. In addition, periodic intelligence briefings were presented to subordinate units. Intelligence information was gathered from II Field Force, 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile), 25th Infantry Division, 1st Aviation Brigade, 12th Aviation Group (Combat), and 23d Artillery Group. These sources provided intelligence coverage for the entire 1lth Aviation Battalion (Combat) area of operations.
- (2) haximum aviator utilization of the "Aircraft receiving ground fire map" has been obtained through command emphasis and inclusion of this subject into the new aviator orientation briefings.
- (3) At present 95 percent of eligible personnel in the battalion have been granted Confidential clearances. This total should be raised to 100 percent with increased coordination between the S2 section and the Intelligence sections of the units.
- (4) Security. In an effort to strengthen our perimeter defenses, we have applied for a 180 day loan of a generator to power the perimeter lights installed by this battalion.

#### j. (C) Plans, Operations and Training.

- (1) Plans. During this reporting period the Battalion Physical Security Plan and all other 11th Aviation Battalion (Combat) plans remained unchanged.
  - (2) Operations.
- (a) The 11th Aviation Battalion (Combat) supported the following major tactical units: II Field Force, 5th ARWI Division, III Corps, 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile), 1st Australian Task Force, Royal Thai Army Volunteer Force (RTAVF), Long Binn Special Zone (LBSZ), Capital Military District (CAD), 5th Special Forces Group, 53d Signal Group, 3d Brigade of the 9th Infantry Division, 199th Light Infantry Brigade, 1lth Armored Cavalry Regiment, 62d Engineer Battalion, 25th ARVN Division, and 25th Infantry Division. These units received all aspects of aviation support.
- (b) The 11th Aviation Battalion (Combat) supported the Cambodian operation with all aspects of aviation support. In addition to combat assault, combat assault support and command and control missions, the 11th Aviation Battalion (Combat), flew 253 hours, hauling 1751 tons of

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cargo, during 3272 sorties, during the mission of extracting the 1st ARVN Airborne Division from fire support bases East II, Scout, and Center from Cambodia.

- (c) The list Aviation Battalion (Combat) continued to conduct airmobile combat Assaults (CA), tactical extractions, and direct combat support (DSS) missions throughout the reporting period for all major units in the III Corps Tactical Zone.
- (d) The 11th Aviation Battalion (Combat) was assigned a total of 84 aircraft recovery missions. The recovery missions included 1 CH47, 4 AH1G's, 2 AlE's, 1 U21 and 76 UH1 type aircraft.
- (ê) There was a total of nine helibucket fire fighting missions (CH 47 "Chinook" equipped with two 350 gallon water buckets) assigned to the 11th Aviation Battalion (Combat) during the reporting period.
  - (3) Training.
- (a) No allocations for the Jungle Environment Survival Training School were received by the 11th Aviation Battalion (Combat) during the reporting period. However, a training team of two USAF NCO's from the JEST School at Clark AFB, Phillipines visited all 11th Aviation Battalion (Combat) units, 16-18 May 1970, and instructed all assigned aviators and crews in jungle survival, escape and evasion, and proper use of the new USAF survival vest, which has been issued to aviators in the assault helicopter companies.
- (b) A Newly Arrived Aviator's Orientation Program at battalion level was established during the reporting period in accordance with 1st Avn Bde Suppl 1 to AR 95-1. This is a 6 hour block of instruction, containing information essential to new aviators. The 11th Aviation Battalion (Combat) has augmented this POI to include additional instruction in COMSEC (Communication Security), SOI (Signal Operations Instructions) and Pathfinder assets. Daily Engine Recording (DER) check, POL contamination and up-dating of Go-No-Go placards were also added. A total of 53 newly assigned aviators received the required POI during the reporting period.
- (c) Replacement training of newly arrived 11th Aviation Battalion (Combat) enlisted personnel continues, utilizing facilities provided by the 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment at Di An, RVN. The 11th Aviation Battalion (Combat) provides a liaison NCO to instruct classes relative to aviation units and to provide control of Battalion personnel at Di An.

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During the reporting period, 136 personnel (98 percent of those eligible) received replacement training as required by USARV Regulation 350-1. The other three personnel were rescheduled for the first week of August.

- (d) The 11th Aviation Battalion (combat) Pathfinder Detachment, consisting of eight personnel, continued its program of parachute training jumps to maintain combat proficiency. A total of eight jumps were conducted during the quarter. The pathfinders also conducted two mobile Training Team Classes on proper rigging and recovery techniques. One class was for the 11th armored cavalry regiment in Di An; the other for the 205th Aviation Company (Assault Support Helicopter). The 11th Aviation Battalion continues to maintain a mobile training team to instruct the Ahva in proper utilization of airmobile assets.
- (e) The program of instrument flight training was continued through out the reporting period. All Battalion aviators are flying a minimum of two hours of hooded flight monthly, which is normally conducted during flights to and from operational areas. Additionally, all aviators are required to execute a minimum of two instrument approaches (ADF and/or CCA) monthly.
- (f) During the reporting period, the Battalion was issued five OH-53 Helicopters. A transition program was instituted immediately, and seven officers, three commissioned and four Warrant Officers, attended the one week transition school located at Vung Tau. The Battalion SIP became IF qualified in the OH-53 in July, and at the present time is conducting transition training within the Pattalion.
- (g) Due to aircraft being dropped during recovery operations another mandatory monthly class was introduced into the training program during the month of July. The class, "Rigging Operations", includes as a minimum, sling inspection, proper rigging procedures, airspeed limitations, routes of flight and crow coordination. The purpose of these classes is to maintain continuous emphasis on proper aircraft recovery techniques in all units involved in recovery operations.
- (h) On 27 July 1970, the LUFAUT NEXT Team initiated a training program for nine students. The purpose of this program is to train students in LUFAUT AUTT operations and tactical employment. The course of instruction includes 30 hours of class room instruction and 25 hours and 30 minutes of flight instruction for each student.
- (i) Also on 27 July 1970, the 11th Aviation Battilion (Combet) initiated an GW-The-Job training (OJT) program for training Vietnamese Airforce Crewmembers in Chinook (CH-47) maintenance operations. The 11th Aviation Sattalion (Combat) conducted all of the planning, coordination,

AVTACA-AC 13 August 1970 SUPJECT: CRIL for Feriod Ending 31 July 1970, RCS CSFCR-65 (R2) (U)

organization and established the program of instruction (FOI) in conjunction with the IdM plan 70-51. The major areas of training will eventually encompass loadmaster, engine repair, aircraft instruments, hydraulics, flight engineers, gunner and aviator training. The training program is organized in such a manner that it will enable the VNAF personnel to become Chinook (CM-47) operational during a short training period. The Aviator Training Program is divided into three training phases. Phase one consists of standardization and first-pilot training and phases, two and three consist of practical flight experience and continued flight experience in the 237th Medium Lift Helicopter Squadrom (MIHS). The 11th Aviation Battalion (Combat) continues to monitor and supervise the training program.

(j) Allocations during the reporting period for the Army Aviation Refresher Training School (AARTS) continues to decrease. Allocations received are as follows:

COURSE	NUMPER OF ALLOCATIONS
TECH SUPPLY COURSE	3
UH-1D/H RETAIR COURSE	1
T-53-I-13 ENGINE COURSE	<b>f</b> ,
CH-47 REPAIR COURSE	1

- (k) (C) <u>Logistics</u>. There is a shortage of repair parts at all echalons for the 4,000 pound Forklift, Truck, Ranger 40 Model. There are no repair parts stocked in the Direct Support Unit for this type of equipment. Excessive order/shipping time (six to nine months) is the contributing factor to the high deadline rate of 20 percent for the equipment.
- (1) (C) Signal. There was a problem in inadvertent damage being done to the FM haming antennes of the OH-58's. The damage was usually caused by ground personnel pushing or stepping on the antennes while performing maintenance work or by PCL personnel during refueling operations. All personnel are now aware of the fragile condition of the antennes, and are taking preventive measures to preclude damage to them.

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(2) "Only emergency transmissions on UHF Guard" was stressed in all new Aviator Orientations and poriodically through command channels to all companies. The necessity for communications oconomy and security continues to be emphasized throughout the Battalion.

#### m. (C) haintenance.

- (1) The battalion average aircraft density was 12 UH-1B/C°s, each operating an average of 80.8 flying hours per month, 43 UH-1D/H's operating an average of 100.3 hours each per month, and 28 CH-47A/C's averaging 78.3 hours per month (See Inclosure 6). Sixteen UH-1 aircraft were turned in and 14 replacements were received. The assault support helicopter companies turned in four CH-47 helicopters and received one replacement.
- (2) Based on MTCE authorization at the close of the reporting period, the 11th Aviation Battalian (Combat) had a shortage of four UH-1B/C aircraft. The 213th Aviation Company (Assault Support Helicopter) operated at a strength of 15 aircraft with 16 CH-47's authorized. The 205th Aviation Company (Assault Support Helicopter) operated at a strength of 13 aircraft with 16 CH-47's authorized.
- (3) The 213th Aviation Company (Assault Support Holicopter) continued operating exclusively with CH-47C model aircraft. Accumulated high-low time aircraft in the unit at the close of the period were 335 and 73 hours, respectively. The T55-L-11 engine is still the major problem facing the 213th Aviation Company (Assault Support Helicopter). During this quarter, 31 engines have been changed for either high oil consumption in the number four and five bearing package or combustion liner support brackets. A new combustion liner is being designed and a new seal for the bearing package is being developed at this time.
- (4) During this quarter a five point turbine angine conservation program was introduced into the 11th aviation Sattalion (Combat). This program consists of:
- (a) One hundred percent participation in the Army Spectromotoric Oil Analysis Program (ASOAP).
  - (b) Increased use of the Vibration Meter and Jet-Cal Analyzer.
- (c) Implementation of the Turbino Analysis Check (TEAC) and the Daily Engine Recording (DER) program.
  - (d) Up-dating of "Go-No-Go" placards.
- (a) Proventing Fuel Contomination. All units of the battalian are actively participating in this program.

AVBaCA\_AC 13 August 1970 SUBJECT: ORLL for Period Ending 31 July 1970, RCS CSFOR-65 (R2) (U)

#### n. (U) Aviation Safety.

- (1) The Battalion closed out fiscal year 1970 with a accident rate of 10.5 and with 95,183 hours flown. The Battalion was able to claim the honors of having the lowest accident rate in the 12th Aviation Group (Combat). We also held the honor for having the lowest accident rate for a Battalion sized unit in USARV.
- (2) At the close of fiscal year 1970, the Battalion had accured 110 continuous days without an aircraft accident. During the year we had five accident free months. During fiscal year 1970, we had 20 incidents, 63 precautionary landings, 18 forced landings and 5 combat losses.

	UNIT RAFE	COMBAT LOSS	INCIDENTS	F/L	P/L	ACCIDENTS
128 <b>T</b> H	18.8	2	9	6	22	6
173RD	3.0	2	6	9	22	1
205TH	13.2	0	1	1	8	2
213TH	7.1	1	3	2	8	1

Our fiscal year accident rate of 10.5 was a reduction of greater than 50% compared with fiscal year 1969's rate of 21.9.

(3) During the quarter, the Anttalion had only one accident, and that was contributed to material failure. The aircraft exploded on impact with trees causing the loss of 13 lives. The aircraft had a cratering charge on board and it is suspected that this caused the aircraft to explode. Prior to impact the aircraft commander had declared an engine failure. The emergency situation was aggravated by the low altitude and a near max gross weight situation. Because of this, all aircraft commanders and air missions commanders have been instructed to limit the passenger load to six US personal or seven ARVN personnel, regardless of additional available power. The only exceptions to this policy will be a tactical emergency extraction. The personnel limit is not considered a minimum load, the "Go-No-Go" limitations must still be considered.

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#### o. (U) liedical.

- (1) During the period 1 May 1970, to 31 July 1970, the 11th Aviation Sattalion (Combat) Dispensaries had a total of 4,345 outpatient visits, including 1,119 Vietnamese civilians. Eighty-four patients were referred to U. S. Army hospitals in Long Sinh and Saigon, including 23 air evacuations utilizing battalion aircraft. One hundred eighty-two physicals were performed completely within the battalion dispensaries, utilizing special equipment acquired in late 1969 and early 1970.
- (2) In general, the health of the command was excellent. Four cases of infectious hepatitis and six cases of shigellosis were treated in the battalion, but no other serious contagious or infectious desuases, including malaria, occured in the battalion. Overall environmental sanitation was satisfactory. All Vietnamese civilian personnel underwent periodic examinations for tuberculosis, syphilis, and generates.
- (3) Major improvements in facilities included the renovation of the Battalion Dispensary administrative area, the Battalion Medical bunker, and establishment of an optomatry clinic in the Battalion Dispensary.

#### (p) (U) Rolligious and Personal Services.

- (1) The 11th Aviation Sattalion's Chaplain has continued to render the organic units with outstanding religious services. The chapel services have been extended by a program of Taking the Chapel to the troops in the field. This program entails the Chaplain actually going to the field sites routinely on combat assault missions. This service has increased religious attendance and most of all it has made religious services available to the maximum number of personnel.
- (2) The 11th Aviation Battalien is currently hosting a VNAF organization for training purposes. The Battalien's Chaplain has made religious services available to these personnel in addition to conducting numerous religious civic actions throughout the community.
- (3) Inclosure eight reflects a summary of religious activities during the reporting period.

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#### q. (U) Civic Actions.

- (1) During the reporting period, the Ben San Leprosarium continued to receive aid from the 205th Assault Support Helicopter Company, In addition to the normal monthly supply of 400 gallons of diesel fuel, the 205th air lifted 6,000 pounds of rice.
- (2) The 213th Aviation Company (Assault Support Helicopter) and the 128th Aviation Company (Assault Helicopter) contributed food to the Phu Cuong Refugee Center. The 213th Aviation Company (Assault Support Helicopter) donated one case of eggs, nine cases of milk, two boxes of apples, and ten pounds of sugar. The 128th Aviation Company (Assault Helicopter) contributed seven cans of potatoes and two cases of fruit juice mix. Major Braddock and other members of the 213th assisted in distributing the supplies to the refugee center. The 213th also contributed 300 pounds of medical supplies to the Ben San Leprosarium.
- (3) On June 14, Officers from the 173rd Aviation Company (Assault Helicopter) visited the Ben Cat Orphanage and presented the children with two large boxes of assorted toys which were donated by the Officer's wives.
- (4) The 173rd Aviation Company (Assault Helicopter) is planning to purchase more ducks for the orphanage. They are also in the planning stage of building a water tower. They have appropriated \$23.00 from the Binh Duong Doner Deposit Fund to buy a battery-powered record player for the Ben Cat Orphanage. Chaplain Sargent, of the 11th Aviation Battalion (Combat), intends to donate some of his Vietnamese records to the orphanage.
- (5) On June 20th, swimming lessons were provided for the Vietnamese Boyscouts. The children were exceptionally enthusiastic, and the whole affair was an overwhelming success.
- (6) After noting the success that the 2/12 Arty has had in their Scout Program, the 11th Aviation Battalion (Combat) is now exploring the possibilities of hosting a similar program. The scouts are part of the World Scouting Organization.
- (7) The 11th Aviation Battalion (Combat), HHC has also obtained a sewing machine for the Ben Cat Orphanage. Including the obvious use of repairing clothing, the sewing machine will be used for training of the children in the art of making and repairing clothing.

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- (8) There has been a Fereign Letter Exchange Program initiated, that will work between American grade school classes and Vietnamese schools and orphanages. The petential of this program is enermous. Handled properly it may bridge the communications gap for tomorrow's leaders.
- 2. (C) Lossons Learned: Commander's Observations, Evaluations, and Recommandations.
  - a. (U) Porsennol. None
  - b. (C) Intolligonce.
  - (1) Antinireraft Vespan Lucations.
- (a) OBSERVATION: The 11th Aviation Settation (Combat) has experienced difficulty in obtaining information with respect to known enemy anti-aircraft locations.
- (b) EVALUATION: During the Cambodian Operation, the 11th Aviation Sattalian (Combat) and undered all aspects of aviation support with the 1st Cavalry Division (Airmebile). However, the established agencies and channels were not responsive enough to provide the antiaircraft data in time to be utilized on missions. This resulted in aircraft conducting missions in areas in which known heavy antiaircraft fire was located.
- (c) RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended that a system be established that will provide a timely exchange of anticircraft location data, for the 11th Aviation Battalion (Cembat), when the Battalion is operating in the 1st Cavalry Division's area of operations.
- (d) COMMAND ACTION: The Commanding Officer, of the 11th aviation Battalian (Combat), established limison with the 1st Cavalry Division (mirrobile), as soon as it was apparent that the Battalian was conducting missions in the Division's Area of Operation without benefit of anti-aircraft location data. This limison resulted in a timely exchange of antimirrange location data, which still persists today, between the intelligence officers of the respective units.
  - c. (C) Operations:
  - (1) External Versus Internal Losding.
- (a) OESURVATION: Hony units are utilizing internal leading of Chinook (CH-47) type aircraft as appeared to external leading.
- (b) EVALUATION: The internal method of leading Chinook (CH-47) typo mireraft results in the mireraft being on the ground for excessive amounts of time, that could be utilized for active employment. Internal leading is more provalent in hauling fragile mass equipment and class 1 rations.

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However, reinforced A-22 containers can adequately protect fragile supplies and equipment. It is also practical to utilize field expedients such as the pig-pens for hauling miscellaneous equipment and class I supplies. Additionally it is also impossible to jettison internal loads in the event an emergency exists.

- (c) RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended that all loads for Chinooks (CH-47) be rigged as external loads. This procedure would provide the pilot with the option to jettisoning the load in the event of an emergency and would facilitate more efficient aircraft utilization and expeditious transport of supplies and equipment.
- (d) COMMAND ACTION: Command emphasis, bulletins, and letters of instruction, in conjunction with various command and staff briefings, have emphasized the advantages of external loads and recommended exclusive use of external rigging for loads which can be rigged as external loads.
  - (2) Maximum Utilization of Chinook (CH-47)Aircraft.
- (a) OBSERVATION: Many units rig loads for Chinook (CH-47) type aircraft that do not take advantage of the single-sortie lift capability of the aircraft.
- (b) EVALUATION: Many of the supported units are preparing loads that weigh approximately five to six thousand pounds. However, each load should be approximately 8,000 pounds. This would enable the aircraft to complete a given mission with less sorties, which would result in better service to the supported units and optimum aircraft utilization.
- (c) RECOMMENDATION: That pathfinders and rated aviators be utilized in a program designed to instruct supported units in the techniques and procedures of rigging and sling load operations in general.
- (d) COMMAND ACTION: The 11th Aviation Battalion (Combat) has utilized its organic pathfinder detachment as a Mobile Training Team in order to train ground units that are supported by the battalion. The pathfinders have also been instructed to utilize all available time, when working with supported ground units for "on the spot" training.
  - (3) Simultaneous Use of Two Donuts.
- (a) OBSERVATION: The use of two donuts on one hook with the loads suspended at the same length causes stress on the hook in such a manner, that the hook will sometimes release one of the loads.

AVBACA\_AC 13 -u\_just 1970 SUBJECT: O.GLL for Pariod Ending 31 July 1970, RCS CSFCR-65 (R2) (U)

- (b) EVALUATION: The soldition of the Chineck (CH-47C, L-11) to the aircraft inventory has increased the lift capability of the Chineck almost two-fold. The supported units normally rig each load with approximately 8,000 pounds utilizing one denut. However, problems develop when two leads are rigged with slings of the same length. This problem is caused by the constant shift in weight of the two leads, which results in severe stress on the book, because the weight eventually rides in the keeper of the book.
- (c) RECOMMENDATION: That units rig double loads with two donuts and employ slings of different longths. Additionally, a donut should be developed that is capable of supporting loads of 20,000 pounds.
- . (4) COMMAND ACTIONS: Supported units have been instructed to employ slings of different lengths when rigging double loads.
  - d. (U) Organization. None
  - e. (U) Praining.
  - (1) Inadvertant Instrument Flight Rules (IFR).
- (a) COSERVATION: There is a need for an instrument training program for aviators who are assigned to the Republic of Vietnam (RVN).
- (b) EVALUATION: Many of the evictors who are assigned to units in Vietnam have received training only for a Rotary Wing Tactical Instrument Ticket. However, during the mensoon senson, the weather is so unstable and some missions are flown in conditions that are conducted to becoming IFR inadvertantly, in such a manner that the skills obtained during qualification for the tactical ticket are inadquate for the situation.
- (c) RECOMMENDATION: That the fith aviation Sattalion (Combat) utilize the assigned retary bing instrument examiner for additional instrument training for the tactical ticket holder.
- (d) COMMAND ACTION: The 11th eviation Dattalion has initiated a program which requires that each eviator fly a minimum of two hours of instruments and/or hood each month in addition to performing two instrument approaches each month.
  - (2) Driver Training.
- (a) 0333RVaTION: The 11th Aviation Buttalion (Combat) has been experiencing motor vehicular accidents and receiving braffic violations (DR's) by experienced drivers.

AVBACA-AC 13 August 1970 SUBJECT: ORLL for Portod Ending 31 July 1970, RCS CSFOR-65 (R2) (U)

- (b) EVALUATION: A survey was conducted which indicated that most of the licensed drivers had received their driver training and driving experience under good driving conditions, on excellent reads, in addition to controlled traffic situations. The survey also showed that the drivers, who have been involved in traffic accidents or received traffic violations (DR's), had maintained excellent driving records prior to having driven in Vietnam.
- (c) RECOMMENDATION: That a program be established in order to identify the least proficient drivers, provide latest driver techniques and regulations relative to Vietness, and general information for drivers throughout the Battalion.
- (d) COMMAND ACTION: The 11th Aviation Battalion (Combat) ostablished a remodial drivers training program on 10 July 1970, which provides driver training for personnel throughout the Battalion. These classes are conducted on a weekly basis and utilize training films, photographs, charts, technical manuals, and vehicles as training aids.

#### f. Logistics.

- (1) <u>Utilization of Water Trailers for Aerial Rosupply Versus Other Available Means.</u>
- (a) OBSERVATION: A number of units are utilizing water trailers rigged as a sling load, when collapsible water bladders or other means are more feasible.
- (b) EVALUATION: The present, generally accepted nothed of resupplying water to field locations is by the use of water trailers rigged as a sling load for the CHT47 Helicopter. Depending on the type, a water trailer filled to capacity (400 gallens) weighs from 5,450 to 6,070 pounds. The weight of the trailer itself (2,280 to 2,900 pounds) can be considered excess weight when it is sling loaded.
- (c) RECOMMENDATION: That the ground commanders be advised as to the feasibility of employing collapsible water bladders or two A-22 bags filled with five gallon water cans when resupplying vater to field locations. The difference in weight of a water trailer and the water bladder or A-22 bags will permit the aircraft to carry more water or other supplies with less serties. Either of the forementioned suggested methods will afford easy rigging of the equipment for a back houl.
- (d) COMMAND ACTION: Correspondence, reference the above mentioned recommendation was offseted with all supported units.

AVBACA-AC 13 August 1970 SUBJECT: ORLL for Period Ending 31 July 1970, RCS CSFOR-65 (R2) (U)

- g. (U) Communications!
- (1) Communications During Resupply Missions.
- (a) OBSERVATION: Aircraft blade time is being lost due to failure of supported units to properly utilize radio communications.
- (b) EVALUATION: During recent operations, there have been numerous incidents of no radio centact with the ground unit at the time the aircraft was scheduled to report for resupply missions. Some ground units are not notifying the II Field Force Army Aviation Elements of changes to radio frequencies. This causes a lost of blade time when the aircraft must remain airborne while awaiting company operations to obtain the correct frequency.
- (c) RECOMMENDATION: That ground commenders ensure that radio frequencies on the mission request are correct, and all changes will be immediately given to AAE for transmission to the supporting unit. Further recommend that ground commanders ensure that resupply frequencies are menitered at least 15 minutes prior to scheduled mission times.
- (d) COMMAND ACTION: Coordination was accomplished with supported units and AAE in regard to the above mentioned evaluation and recommendation.
  - h. Materiel. None
  - i. Other.
  - (1) Maint manc on CH-47 Holicopters While the Roters are Turning.
- (a) OBSERVATION: Maintenance personnel are required to conduct maintenance on top of Chinooks (CH-47) while the rotor blades are turning.
- (b) EVALUATION: There are certain maintenance checks which require maintenance personnel to conduct the checks on top of the Chinook with the rotor blades turning. This presents a hazardous situation with respect to safety to the maintenance personnel and equipment.
- (c) RECOMMENDATION: Maintenance personnel, who are conducting required checks on top of Chinooks (CH-47) with rotor blades turning, should wear helmets with chin straps fastened during the performance of these checks.

13 August 1970 AVBACA-AC SUPJECT: ORLL for Period Ending 31 July 1970, RCS CSFOR-65 (R2) (U)

(d) COMMAND ACTIONS: Chinock maintenance personnel have been instructed to use helmets for the above mentioned situation, on an experimental basis in order to determine the practicality of this method. The objective of this program is to provide an added measure of safety and obtain the protection afforded to the ears.

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H. McK. ROPER JR.

LTC, CE

Commanding

8 Incl

1. Organizational Chart

2. Command and Staff Structure

3. Aircraft Status

4. Operational/Mission Results

5. Ammunition Expended

6. Aircraft Maintenance Statistical Summary

7. Aircraft Combat Damage/Loss

8. Chapel Statistics

Incl 2 w/d HQ DA DISTRIBUTION:

7 Copies to CO, 12th Aviation Group (Combat)

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1 Copy to CO, 222d Aviation Battalion (Combat)
1 Copy to CO, 269th Aviation Battalion (Combat)
1 Copy to CO, 3d Sqdn, 17th Air Cav

AVRACA-SC (13 Aug 70) 1st Ind SUBJECT: Operational Report-Lessons Learned, 11th Aviation Rattalion (Combat) for the Period Ending 31 July 1970 RGS CSFOR-65 (R2) (U)

DA. HEADQUARTERS, 12TH AVIATION GROUP (COMPAT), APO 96266 2 Sep 70

THRU: Commanding General, II Field Force Vietnam, APO 96266

Commanding General, 1st Aviation Brigade, ATTN: AVBA-C, APO 96304

AVHCC(DST), APO 94375 Commanding General, US Army Vietnam, ATTM:

96558 Commander-in-Chief, US Army Pacific, ATTM: GPCP-DT. APO

Assistant Chief of Staff for Force Development, Department of the TO: Army, Washington, D.C. 20310

- 1. (U) This headquarters has reviewed and concurs with the Operational Report-Lessons Learned for the period ending 31 July 1970 from Headquarters, 11th Aviation Battalion (Combat).
- 2. (C) The following comments and additions are provided:
- a. Reference: page 10, para in(3), Aviation Safety. The 128th Assault Heliconter Commany accident shown and discussed occurred during the preceding reporting period and is erroneously posted in this ORLL.
- b. Reference: page 13, para 2b(1), Anti-aircraft Weapon Locations. The S-2, 12th Aviation Group (Combat), is posting all sircraft shot-at reports by type weapon and date of occurrence. This information is orovided to the battalions on a daily basis and can be used by aircraft in avoiding hazardous areas. This information can also be used by higher and lower headquarters in determining suspected hase camp/cache sites.
- c. Reference: page 14 para 2c(2), "Maximum Utilization of Chinook (CH-47) aircraft." Aircraft suprort from 12th Aviation Group (Combat) will be reduced during the next reporting period due to the insctivation of an assault and an assault support helicopter company. Yaximum utilization of the remaining assets will be required in the coming quarter to minimize the loss of support.

d. Pathfinder sling rigging and inspection classes were scheduled by this headquarters for 12th Group units with organic mathfirders. Assistance visits were also made to all supported units in an effort to reduce dropped loads caused by improper rigging and defective sling equipment.

JOHN C. HUGHES

Colonel, Infantry

Commanding

CONFIDENTIAL

AVFBC\_RE (13 Aug 70) 2nd Ind SUBJECT: Operational Report - Lessons Learned of 11th Aviation Battalion (Combat) for Period Ending 31 July 1970 RCS CSFCR\_65 (R2)(U)

DA, HJ, II Field Force Vietnam, APO San Francisco 96266 15 SEP 1970

TilkU: Commanding General, 1st Aviation Brigade, ATTN: AVBA\_C, APO 96384

Commanding General, US Army Vietnam, ATTN: AVHGC\_DST, APO 96375

Commander\_In\_Chief, US Army Pacific, ATTN: GPOP\_DT, APO 96538

TO: Assistant Chief of Staff for Force Development, Department of the Army, Washington, D.C. 20310

1. (U) This headquarters has reviewed the Operational Report - Lessons Learned for the quarterly period ending 31 July 1970 from 11th Aviation Battalion (Combat) and concurs with the comments of the indorsing headquarters.

#### 2. (C) Comments follows

a. Reference item concerning "Antiaircraft Weapon Locations", page 13, paragraph 2b(1). A rapid and timely method of exchanging antiaircraft location data among all II FFORCEV OPCON units should aid pilots in avoiding potentially hazardous areas, as well as improving the exchange of ir portant intelligence information.

b. Reference item concerning "Utilization of Water Trailers for Aerial Resupply Versus Other Available Means", page 16, paragraph 2f(1). Concur with evaluation and recommendation as presented by the 11th Aviation Bn (Combat) with exception that the tactical unit commander must determine whether he needs a water trailer on the ground at the field location. It is conceivable that circumstances could arise that would require the water trailer for further mission accomplichment, or that other types of water containers may not be available.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

W. C. BARTEL J CPT, AGC Asst AG

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AVHDO-DO (13 Aug 70) 4th Ind SUBJECT: Operational Report-Lessons Learned of the 11th Aviation Battalion (Combat), for Quarterly Period Ending 31 July 1970, RCS CSFOR-65 (R2)(U)

Headquarters, United States Army Vietnam, APO San Francisco 96375 13 55

- TO: Commander in Chief, United States Army Pacific, ATTN: GPOP-DT, APO 96558
- 1. This Headquarters has reviewed the Operational Report-Lessons Learned for the quarterly period ending 31 July 1970 from Headquarters, 11th Aviation Battalion (Combat) and comments of indorsing headquarters.

#### 2. Comments follow:

- a. Reference item concerning "External Versus Internal Loading," page 13, paragraph 2c(1). External loads assist the aviation unit in rapidly and safely accomplishing its mission. However, the aviation unit is the supporting unit and the ground unit is the unit supported. Combat requirements as determined by the ground commander may dictate internal loads. Command action of direct coordination and briefings is considered adequate. Unit has been so advised.
- b. Reference item concerning "Maximum Utilization of Chinook Aircraft," page 14, paragraph 2c(2). The aviation unit commander is the primary advisor to the ground commander on aviation matters. The action described in Command Action is most appropriate and considered adequate. Unit has been advised.
- c. Reference item concerning "Inadvertent Instrument Flight Rules," page 15, paragraph 2e(1). AR 95-63 outlines standards that must be met in order to be awarded a tactical instrument rating. Paragraph 3-9 of that regulation specifically states that the same standard is applicable to tactical, standard and special instrument flight examination. USARV Supplement 1 to AR 95-1 requires unit commanders to conduct an instrument training program for aviators under their command. Action taken is considered adequate. Unit has been so advised.
- d. Reference item concerning "Maintenance on CH-47 Helicopters While Rotors are Turning," page 17, paragraph 2i(1): nonconcur. This Headquarters knows of no checks of the CH-47 that require maintenance personnel on top of the aircraft while the blades are turning. This information has been provided

AVHDO-DO (13 Aug 70) 4th Ind SUBJECT: Operational Report-Lessons Learned of the 11th Aviation Battalion (Combat), for Quarterly Period Ending 31 July 1970, RCS CSFOR-65 (R2)(U)

the reporting unit through safety channels. Unit has been so advised. No action by USARPAC or DA is recommended.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

Frank AGC

Assistant Adjusent General

Cy furn: 1st Avn Bde 11th Avn Bn GPOP-DT (13 Aug 70) 5th Ind (U)

SUBJECT: Operational Report of HQ, 11th Aviation Battalion (Combat) for Period Ending 31 July 1970, RCS CSFOR-65 (R2)

HQ, US Army, Pacific, APO San Francisco 96558 19 NOV 1970

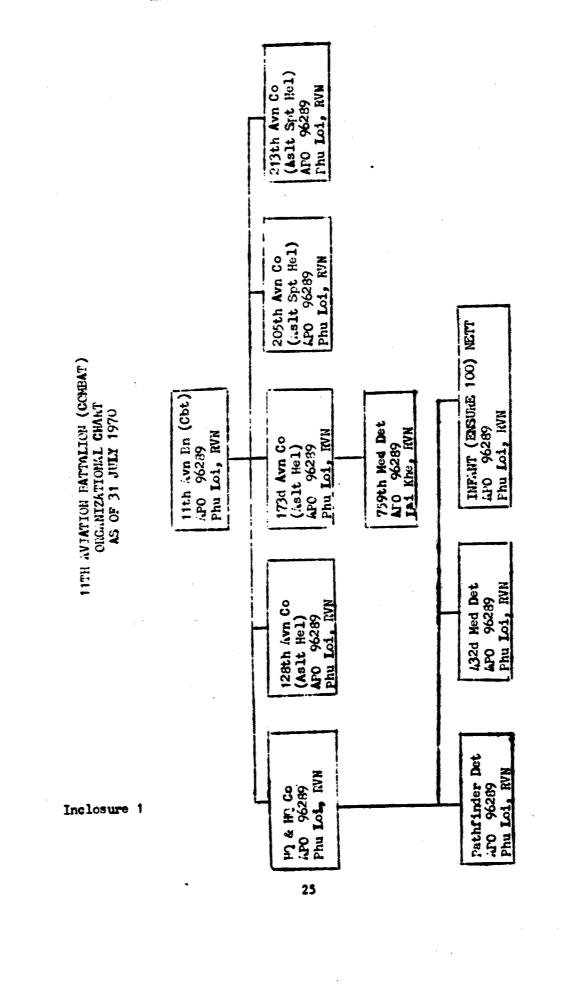
TO: Assistant Chief of Staff for Force Development, Department of the Army, Washington, D. C. 20310

This headquarters concurs in subject report as indorsed.

FOR THE COMMANDER IN CHIEF:

L.M. OZAR

CPT, AGG Asst AG



11TH AVIATION BATTALION (COMBAT)
- AIRCRAFT STATUS
AS OF 31 JULY 1970

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	ð	OH-58A			5	GF-1				CH-1.7	
UNIT	AUTH	ON HAID	HI.O.			ON HAND	9	; 	AUTH	ON HAND	AND
				JH-1B	2H-1C		UT-1D UT-1H UT-1H	UH-1H		CH-47A	247-HD
128th ann Co (aslt Hel)	0	0	31	9	0	9	16	0	0	0	0
173d Avn Co (Aslt Hel)	0	0	31	0	9	0	IJ.	0	0	0	0
205th avn co (Asit Spt Hel)	-	750	3	0	0	0	٥	0	16	5	0
213th Avn Co (Aslt Spt Hel)	-	que.	0	၁	0	0	٥	0	16	0	25
FAC	3	3	_	0	0	-	၁	~	0	0	•
11th Avn Bn (cbt)	5 .	5	63	9	9	17	23	~	32	2	5

# 11TH AVIATION BATTALION (COMBAT) OPERATIONAL/MISSION RESULTS FOR THE PERIOD 1 MAY 1970 THROUGH 31 JULY 1970

a. Operational Results:

UPIT	SORTIES FLOWN	TROOPS LIFTED	CARGO TONS LIFTED	HOURS FLOWN
129th Avn Co (Aslt Hel)	19,227	37,420	5	7,667
173d Avn Co (Aslt Hel)	26,883	48,448	24	8,462
205th Avn CO (Aslt Srt Hel)	11,730	14,730	21,125	3,457
213th wn Co (Kalt Spt Hel)	8,714	15,507	20,809	3,210
PN HQ	1,035	227	2	1,012
11th Avn Bn (Cbt)	67,589	116,332	41,965	23,808

b. Mission Results:

π <b>MI</b>	AIRCR CBT DAM		KI" EMBIA	STRU	ICTURES DEST		PANS DEST	RECOVER-
129th Avn Co (Aslt Hel)	8	0	12	0	0	0	0	0
173d Avn Co (Aslt Hel)	1	o `	14	12	14	0	0	0
205th Avn Co (Aslt Spt Hel)	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
213th Avn Co (Aslt Spt Hel)	3	1	0	С	0	0	0	38
ви на	c	0	69	2	2	0	1	0
11th Avn Fn (Cbt)	17	1	95	14	16	0	1	38

Inclosure 4

# 11TH AVIATION BATTALION (COMBAT) AMMUNITION EXPENDED FOR THE PERIOD 1 MAY 1970 THROUGH 31 JULY 1970

UNIT	7.62	40mm	2,75 <b>F</b> FAR	50CAL
128th Awn Co (Aslt Hel)	294,660	1879	4422	7500
173d Avn Co (Aslt Hel)	595,160	o	6436	0
205th Avn Co (Aslt Spt Hel)	0	0	0	0
213th Avn Co (Aslt Spt Hel)	0	0	o	0
Bn HQ	95,300	0	508	
11th avn Bn (CBT)	985,120	1879	1 <u>1.</u> 366	2500

-Inclased

# 11TH AVIATION BATTALION (COMBAT) AIRCRAFT MAINTANANCE STATISTICAL SUMMARY FOR THE PERIOD 1 MAY 1970 THROUGH 31 July 1970

TYPE AIRCRAFT	May	JUNE	JULY.	TOTAL
		HOURS FLOWN		
FM-13/C UE-1D UH-1H CH-47A CH-47C	905 1190 2905 1453 1394	1092 1690 2938 1236 1094	1012 1235 2969 745 757	3009 4015 8712 3434 3145
		AVIALABLE (3)		•
UH-13/C UH-1D UH-1H CH-47A CH-47C	75.0% 80.2% 75.1% 79.4% 67.2%	79.8% 75.7% 72.13 82.2% 73.7%	73.5 75.83 32.4 87.83 82.5	78.0% 77.3% 76.5% 83.1% 74.4%
		Hores (\$)		
UH=13/C UH=1D UH=1H CH=47A CH=47C	16.2% 14.44 19.30 20.05 30.4%	13.76 18.75 24.76 17.36 21.26	18.5% 18.6% 14.3% 12.2% 13.1.	16.0% 17.2% 19.5% 16.5% 21.6%
-		. NORS (\$)		
UH=1B/C UH=1D UH=1H CH=47% CH=47C	8.86 5.42 5.63 0.62 2.43	6.5% 5.6% 3.2% 0.5% 5.1%	3.0% 5.6% 3.3% 0.0% 4.4%	6.0% 5.5% 4.0% 4.0%

	AIRCE	
UNIT	CBT DAM	CPT LOSS
128th AHC	11	0
173rd AHC	5	o
205th ASHC	5	0
213th ASPC	3	1
ннс	С	o
11th AB(C)	24	1

Inclosure 7

# 11TH AVIATION SATTALION (COMBAT CHAPEL STATISTICS FOR THE PERIOD 1 WAY 1970 THROUGH 31 JULY 1970

Occasions	Number of Occasions	Attendance
Religious Services		
Protestant	246	3947
Catholic	26	593
Church of Christ	6	14
Counseling Sessions	147	
Troop Duty Area Visits	2355 .	
Character Guidance Instruction	15	3075
Memorial Services	. 3	290
Hospital Visits	21	
Stockade Visits	2	

-Inclosure 0

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DOCUMENT CONTROL DATA - R & D			
(Security classification of title, body of abstract and indusing amountion must be entered when the overall report is classified)			
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3 ASPORT TITLE	1 4		
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4. DESCRIPTIVE MOTES (Type of report and inclusive dates)			
Experiences of unit engaged in counterinsurgency operations 1 May to 31 July 1970.			
3. AUTHORISI (First mass, middle initial, last name)			
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CO, 11th Aviation Battalion			
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